Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 2023

The Honorable Rishi Sunak Prime Minister 10 Downing St London SW1A 2AA, United Kingdom

Dear Prime Minister Sunak:

Our two countries have a long history of working together to fight evil across the globe, from our coordination in World War I and World War II in the last century, to our present-day cooperation through our NATO and AUKUS alliances. Our ironclad partnership is built on standing together to confront global threats to peace and security. In that spirit, we write today, as Republican and Democratic members of the United States House of Representatives, to respectfully urge the United Kingdom to swiftly act to proscribe the Islamic Republic of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), in its entirety, as a terrorist organization.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism and the IRGC is the central core of the country's terrorist operations at home and abroad. The IRGC has openly carried out plots targeting citizens around the world for decades. Presently, Germany is pursuing prosecution against IRGC-linked individuals responsible for plotting attacks against synagogues in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Last year, an Iranian diplomat was convicted on terrorism charges in Belgium for his role in a 2018 plot in Paris. Authorities in Georgia reportedly foiled the IRGC's attempted assassination of an Israeli-Georgian businessman in Tbilisi last year. In addition, the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed several indictments against IRGC operatives this year in shocking murder-for-hire schemes targeting a former national security adviser and U.S. Secretary of State, among others.

The IRGC also poses a direct threat to UK citizens. Most recently, as you are aware, the IRGC lured British-Iranian national Alireza Akbari back to Iran and cruelly executed him on spurious espionage charges. Additionally, in February 2023, the United Kingdom's MI5 chief reported that they had foiled or exposed at least 15 kidnapping or assassination plots by the IRGC targeting U.K.-based persons since January 2022 alone. Recognizing this grave threat, on January 12, 2023, the House of Commons voted unanimously in favor of a measure calling for the United Kingdom to proscribe the IRGC as a terrorist organization.

While we are pleased to see the additional sanctions the UK has placed on the IRGC, more must be done. We understand that under the United Kingdom's Terrorist Act of 2000, the UK can proscribe a group as a terrorist organization if it commits, participates in, prepares for, promotes, encourages, or is connected to terrorism. It is widely known that the IRGC funds, arms, trains, and provides intelligence to UK-proscribed terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ). By this measure alone, the United Kingdom should take action to proscribe

the IRGC as a terrorist organization. Combined with the long and growing list of IRGC-related terrorist activities planned, carried out, or thwarted in the UK and across the globe, further action is more than justified.

We hope you will give due consideration to this important and timely request. Designating the IRGC will send the clear message to Iran that acts of terrorism against us, our partners, and innocent citizens must not, and will not be tolerated.

Sincerely,

Claudia Tenney

Member of Congress

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Bradley Scott Schneider Member of Congress

Jared Moskowitz

Member of Congress

Jim Costa

Member of Congress

Michael V. Lawler

Member of Congress

Mark E. Green, MD Member of Congress

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Kelly Armstrong

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Josh Gottheimer Member of Congress Brad Sherman

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Thomas H. Kean, Jr.

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Brandon WIlliams Member of Congress

Rudy Yakym III

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